

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1 – 6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) [[A]] An automatic machine for making infusion packets comprising a dosing device for feeding an infusion product, the dosing apparatus comprising:

a rotary drum conveyor positioned between a web of filter material and a hopper for containing the infusion product; the drum conveyor having a plurality of radial cells for containing the infusion product and in each cell there is a sliding dosing piston; each piston being driven axially by respective eccentric cam actuating means between two end positions, one position corresponding to a top dead centre of the drum conveyor where each dosing cell faces the hopper in order to receive a quantity of the infusion product, and the other position corresponding to a bottom dead centre of the drum conveyor where the dosing cell faces the web of filter material in order to discharge the quantity of infusion product onto the web of filter material, the eccentric cam actuating means comprising at least one cam track in which there runs a cam follower for each piston; between the actuating means and each piston there being crank means for acting coaxially on the piston in such a way as to enable the piston to move in a direction that is perfectly aligned with a longitudinal axis of the respective dosing cell, said crank means comprising a first crank and a second crank, the first crank being connected at one end to the cam follower and, at the other end, to a transmission shaft; the transmission shaft being rigidly attached to a first end of the second crank that is in

turn connected at its other end to a first end of a connecting control rod; the connecting rod being linked to the piston,

wherein the end of the second crank that is linked to the connecting rod is fork-shaped having two parallel arms extending perpendicular to a longitudinal axis of the transmission shaft with a coaxial hole in each arm aligned in parallel with the axis of the transmission shaft, and

wherein each crank means further includes a pin in said coaxial holes coupling the first end of the connecting rod to the second crank, the first end of the connecting rod being positioned between the two arms,

wherein the end of the second crank that is connected to the connecting rod acts coaxially on the piston.

8. (Currently Amended) [[A]] An automatic machine for making infusion packets comprising a dosing device for feeding an infusion product, the dosing apparatus comprising:

a rotary drum conveyor positioned between a web of filter material and a hopper containing the infusion product, the rotary drum conveyor having a plurality of radial dosing cells made therein for containing the infusion product and a sliding dosing piston in each cell;

an eccentric cam actuating device driving each piston axially between two end positions, one position corresponding to a top dead centre of the rotary drum conveyor where each dosing cell faces the hopper in order to receive a quantity of the infusion product, and the other position corresponding to a bottom dead centre of the rotary

drum conveyor where each dosing cell faces the web of filter material in order to discharge the quantity of infusion product onto the web of filter material; and

crank means interposed between the cam actuating device and each piston for acting coaxially on the piston moving the piston in a direction that is perfectly aligned with a longitudinal axis of the respective dosing cell.

9. (Currently Amended) The device machine according to claim 8,

wherein the crank means comprises, for each piston, a transmission shaft, a first crank connected at one end of the transmission shaft, a cam follower mounted coaxial with an axis of the transmission shaft on an end of the first crank; a second crank having a first end rigidly attached to the other end of the transmission shaft; a connecting rod having a first end connected to a second end of the second crank, a second end of the connecting rod being linked to the piston; and

wherein the eccentric cam actuating device comprises at least one cam track on which the cam followers run.

10. (Currently Amended) The device machine according to claim 9, wherein the first end of the second crank is fork-shaped having two parallel arms extending perpendicular to the axis of the transmission shaft with a coaxial hole in each arm aligned in parallel with the axis of the transmission shaft, and

wherein each crank means further includes a pin in said coaxial holes coupling the first end of the connecting rod to the second crank, the first end of the connecting rod being positioned between the two arms.

11. (Currently Amended) The device machine according to claim 10, wherein each crank means further includes a second, transversal pin mounted in a respective hole in the piston coupling the second end of the connecting rod to the piston.

12. (Currently Amended) The device machine according to claim 11, wherein the respective hole in each piston is positioned proximate a longitudinal and lateral center of the piston whereby the connecting rod acts coaxially on the piston.